

Additional comments on GBEP hearings.

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ref: GBEP-IP059

- 1. BESS despite the developers stating that BESS was subordinate to the principle solar development. I further adds, The BESS and it's import connection is not necessary as a source of additional revenue for the applicant. Yet when asked for further by the inspector for clarification on profits made from importation of low price power and exportation rates, counsel for the applicant made robust rebuttal, in doing so confirming to many in the room that the planned existence of BESS import connection was in all probability a lucrative financial arbitrage scheme to make high profits from the importation of power generated from gas turbine generation in off peak periods, then selling it back to the grid at peak prices, thus increasing the burden on consumer prices via LCOE.**

- 2. Construction sites on Kexby Lane (B1421) The siting of the construction site south on Kexby lane is in very close proximity to residential properties & businesses. The business attracts numerous vehicles almost daily dropping off and picking up animals. parking on the road is often necessary. Residential properties will have their way of life impacted with circa 110 vehicle trips in and out daily. Noise, spoil and detritus matter from the site deposited on the roadway, airborne dust and fumes 12hours plus daily.**

The siting will require the destruction of part of a wood, (some of which provides a screen to the sewage pumping station). The destruction of an ancient hedgerow which is home to many species of bird, insect and small mammals.

There is an existing opening into the field some 125m further West, this would also give a better field of view along the road to the East for exiting the site, this would reduce the amount of hedgerow & tree removal, it would also lessen to some extent, the impact on residential properties.

3. Welfare & Sanitary facilities, I have yet to find reference to the welfare & sanitation facilities to cater for a workforce in excess of 400 working 12 hours per day, where are they to be sited? How will the waste & sewerage be disposed of, what controls are in place to ensure grey water or sewage is not discharged into local water courses.

What controls are in place for rodent & pest control, we live in a rural area and know the levels of cleanliness needed to reduce the risks of infestation, living next or near to a site with a lax waste regime will impact on the probability of infestation in the wider neighbouring areas.

4. Impact of increased traffic on roads. Although the representative from Acom talked about the impact on 2 or 3 "A" roads in the area, no reference was made to the rural "B" roads that will experience an unprecedented uplift in traffic and heavy vehicle usage on an almost daily basis. The routes to be used are not very clear as are the site maps. At least one route will probably pass

near to primary school passage here at school drop off & pick up times is difficult by car let alone HGV & LGV.

There is also reference to access to the A for northern passage to the A1 junction at Blyth. Access via A631. This would require passage through Gainsborough and the Bridge which does become a traffic bottleneck.

5. Reference was again made to the unsuitability of the soil quality for arable farming. The crop yields in this area and surrounding area which are classified as 3b, have in most years, produced equal to or exceeded crop yields of farms with better soil classification, it is a much outmoded classification system and the acid test of soil suitability for agriculture should be it's yield. It is erroneous for developers to use 3b as if it were brownfield.

6. This and other Solar sites in the area will make the largest in Europe if not the world. Other huge across the globe are sited in remote areas, this is adjacent to or abutting residential properties. There has been little or no scientific study into the short or long term effects of living in such close proximity to so large a solar complex. Before this scheme is given permission, a study into the impact on health (physical & mental) and enforceable distances from installations for residential safety should be enshrined into law.

7. Flooding, in particular surface water flooding issue affecting property on Kexby Lane. The only safety margin we have is the ability to pump away surface water from around our houses into the Upper Witham river during times of heavy & prolonged rains. At times when the river is swollen there is a much

reduced capacity before the bank is breached. There is justified concern that the runoff from so many solar panels onto compacted soils will exasperate the situation, reference by the Acom flood expert to Swales which in essence divert water and carry it away, but there was no reference to exactly where, the river at times may not accommodate such an increase in drainage, and vague musings that it “may” be stored in a catchment tank and later released do little to reassure those that have suffered fluvial ingress in the recent past.

With that in mind there is a culvert that passes under the road allowing 3 ditch drains to flow into the Upper Witham river. One runs along adjacent to the doomed hedgerow and the proposed entrance to the Kexby Lane South construction site, this would need to be bridged.

Ditch 2 runs East to West along the south side of Kexby Lane.

The 3rd ditch runs south to north between the partly condemned wood and the sewage pumping station.

They all discharge at the culvert & are carried under the road to the Upper Witham river.

The proposed construction site there raises concerns that building drainage, equipment, fuel stores etc. and hard standing runoff will be directed into the water courses here exasperating the potential for flooding and allowing contaminates to enter the marine environment. It is far to close to this drainage junction.

Photo 1. North field 1 after a few hours rain and attracting some the flock of Canadian Grey Geese that use the area annually to breed.

Photo 2 The white marker fences showing the line of the under road culvert running South to North.

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